Fodder Scam

1283. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Comptroller and Auditor-General has indicated the Income Tax department for its lapses in not pointing out the events on time which led to fodder scam in Bihar;

(b) whether the Government have taken any action to find the reasons for lapses by Income Tax department; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) A preliminary observation in the form of an Audit Note has been received from the C&AG which is being examined.

Subsidies Items

1284. SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of major items on which subsidy is being provided by the Government;

(b) the amounts of subsidies provided on each of these items during the last two years;

(c) whether the Government propose to reduce subsidies to curtail revenue deficit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The major items for which subsidy has been provided in the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 are given below :

(Rs. crore)

	1994-95	1995-96 RE
Food subsidy	5100	5500
Indigenous (urea) fertilisers	4075	4300
Imported (urea) fertilisers	1166	1935
Sale of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilisers with concession to farmers	531	500
Export promotion and market development	658	315
Total	11530	12550

(c) The provision made for subsidies is reflective of the policy of the Government.

(d) Does not arise.

Outstanding Loan Recoveries

1285. DR. G.R. SARODE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to launch agricultural loan recovery drive; and

(b) if so, the total amount of outstanding loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) Recovery of loans including to agriculture is a continuing process undertaken by lending institutions who review their recovery performance periodically and take steps for improving the recovery.

(b) The total amount of overdues (outstanding loans) of direct agricultural advances of all public sector banks as at the end of June, 1996, as reported by Reserve Bank of India, is given below :

(Rs. crores)

	Total overdues	Percentage of recovery to demand
As at the end of June, 1996	4965.28	61.83*

* figures provisional

Public Sector Undertakings

1286. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified nine Public Sector Undertakings to convert them into global giants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have agreed to help the other PSUs;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have changed the policy of disinvestment of PSUs; and

(f) if so, the changes that are likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) As spelt out in the CMP, Government have tentatively identified some PSUs which have potential to become global gaints.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A Comprehensive Package in respect of PSUs under the administrative control of Ministry of Industry (DHI) has been finalised and approved by the Government.

(e) and (f) There is no change in the policy of disinvestment of PSUs.